

**March 22, 1999 Town Assembly for the Village of Arden
Gild Hall • Arden, Delaware**

Present:	Alan Burslem	Marguerite Archer
Aaron Hamburger	Maria Walker	Marianne Archer
Phil Fisher	Mary Brent Whipple	Marianne Cinaglia
Liz Resko	Jan Westerhouse	Brooke Bovard
June Taylor	Lynda Kolski	Marge Mabrey
Jannie Stearns	Allan Kleban	Pete Renzetti
Rodey Jester	Sharon Kleban	Leon Tanzer
Ruth Bean	Lew Aumack	Deborah Kenny (NV)
Lou Bean	Frank Akutowitz	Yvonne King
June Irons	Heidi Hoegger	Barnes King
Gail Rinehart	Mark Taylor	Linda Eaton
Nick Vinson	Rich Bloom	Alton Dahl
Tim Colgan	Larry W. Walker	Bob Wynn (NV)
Mary Marconi	Maria Walker	Jean K. Brachman
Bill Press	Sally Hamburger	Maryellen Jobson
Joan Fitzgerald	Bernie Brachman	Dela Bryan
Cookie Ohlson	Beverly Barnett	Dane Miller
Peggy Aumack	Naomi Clark	Steven Threefoot
Betty O'Regan	Joan Zylkin	Edward Rohrbach
Denis O'Regan	Tom Wheeler	Chris Demsey
Cecilia Vore	Ken Lipstein	John Demsey
Sadie Somerville	Paul Thompson	Connee McKinney
Dion Taylor	Johanne Schoeder	
Eliot Levin	David Scott (NV)	

1. **Meeting called to order:** The meeting was called to order by the town assembly chairperson, Bill Press.
2. **Motion to allow BWVC expansion vote:** A motion was made, seconded and approved to suspend the normal order of business to allow for a report by the Buzz Ware Village Center on the proposed expansion of the number of members of their committee from five to seven.

The proposed motion submitted by the nominees was read by the secretary and follows below.

Motion: The BWVC ask this assembly to expand the committee membership from five to seven on a trial basis of one year.

Support of motion: The goal of the nominees listed below is to utilize the BWVC as a community center while assuring that it remains a relatively self-sufficient entity. The present window of opportunity for change is going to require numerous expanded responsibilities, such as scheduling, programming, maintenance and structure improvement, ACRA, Ardencroft and Ardentown liaisons, long-range planning and public relations.

BWVC Report on Committee Expansion continued

The next couple of years will most likely be the most labor intensive in getting momentum going and establishing the organization and networking required. For this reason, we feel expansion of the committee is critical for our goal to be achieved.

Nominees: Marguerite Archer, Peg Aumack, Tim Colgan, Heidi Hoegger, Allan Kleban, Wayne Knotts, Eliot Levin, Ken Lipstein, Betty O'Regan, Elaine Schmerling, and Dion Taylor.

Discussion on BWVC Committee Expansion:

Question to Registration Committee (Cecilia Vore, chairperson): How many members will be elected tonight and how will it work next year? **Response:** Six committee members will be elected tonight: 3 members for 2-year terms, 1 to fill a vacancy, 2 for 1-year terms. This committee is not in the original charter, but Registration Committee and Legislative Reference Committee were consulted, and the procedure that has been used previously is to announce the intention to expand the committee ahead of time to the residents and then to bring a motion for expanding a committee to town meeting for a vote. Both of these processes have taken place: the announcement was made at the January town meeting and on the agenda for this one. This is the only way at present to expand a committee.

Other comments: We are being too hasty to take the vote this evening. Other committees could do the same thing. Other committees are busy also and have non-voting members to help out—one doesn't have to be elected to serve. This might be procedurally correct, but it does set a bad precedent. This is a reasonable request and we should approve it. We should look into the committee formation and expansion process and establish a clear policy for the future.

Nominees' response: A voting member has a higher level of commitment. There are fiscal responsibilities with this committee such as leases that have to be negotiated with tenants or rentals.

A vote was taken and the motion to expand the committee for 1-year passed.

3. **A motion to suspend reports to hold annual elections:** A motion was made, seconded and approved to suspend the order of business so that committee and officer elections could be held. The Registration chairperson asked for additional nominations from the floor. Legislative Reference nominated Steve Harcourt. The chairperson asked for the officers nominated to stand.

Discussion: A resident expressed concern that one of the nominees for Advisory chairperson was also chairperson of Assessors.

Response: In the past, if a person chairs two committees, a substitute as a representative, is sent to Advisory from one of the two committees.

Printed ballots were distributed and then collected. The ballots will be counted on March 23 at 7:30 pm at committee member, Sharon Kleban's house. Any resident is welcome to be present at the ballot counting. The election results will be posted and all nominees will be notified by mail of the results.

4. **Agenda clarification:**

Ruth Bean from the **Committee on Aging** asked residents to consider volunteering time as drivers for our older adults. Also volunteers are needed for small household jobs such as changing overhead light bulbs. The time commitment is not extensive, perhaps a half hour per month. Call Ruth Bean if you are interested in helping out.

5. **Correspondence:** No.

6. **Minutes** from the last town meeting were approved.

7. **Trustees: Gail Rinehart**

1. First, **land rents** for the 1999–2000 fiscal year have been coming in nicely. The total funds generated for the fiscal year, in accordance with the assessor's report, is \$315,850.62. This represents about \$5,500 more than was collected for the '98–'99 fiscal year.

2. There has been some progress in the **Buckingham Green** lawsuit we began 3 years ago this coming June. As you recall, this action relates to the storm water runoff damage occurring in our Sherwood Forest. The suit is before Vice Chancellor Steele, who has promised our lawyer that he will to "...get to that issue soon."

3. The **survey** of the Marsh Rd. intersection and Harvey Rd. down to Hillside is in progress. The purpose of this is two-fold:

a. To determine the actual boundaries of the Village

b. To determine the actual county right of way along part of Harvey Rd.

4. The quarterly financial report on the entrance table is considered to be part of this report [see Expenditures and Receipts on the following pages of these minutes].

5. As mentioned in the Trustees' report of January, we sent out letters with the land rent bills to all leaseholders who have potential **non-conforming lots**, as defined by the New Castle County land use code. And, as expected, this has brought a flurry of responses from both leaseholders and county land use department personnel. The information we dispersed was based on the actual Unified Code referencing this issue (*Chapter 13 Article 8: Non-Conforming Situations*) which I have attached to this report and specific responses we received in writing from the head of the county legal department over the course of the past year—with Marianne checking on final details and answers to particular questions up through this January. One of the issues we are experiencing is that it appears that communication between the legal department and the land use department relating to this issue has not been complete. Even now, leaseholders are getting mixed responses from the land use personnel, including various suggestions for possible courses of actions that they should

Trustees Report continued

follow. To us, some of these suggestions are not viable, or even appropriate, and, in some cases, we are telling the leaseholder not to follow the suggested course of action. One scenario was that the leaseholder was supposed to write a letter to the county saying that the mapping assessment department had made a mistake back in the beginning relating to his lot. Another more common scenario is that people have been told that the Trustees should apply for a NC-5 zoning designation rather than the current NC-10 because the NC-5 designation is, in essence, a "catch all" for older, pre-'54 developments that are not able to meet current zoning regulations. While this solution may appear to solve the problem, it was realized at a meeting held in the Buzz Ware Village Center during December, 1997, that included county personnel, representatives of the Community Planning committee, Marianne, Aaron, and other interested parties, and through our own research in the early part of last year, that changing to the NC-5 designation had some specific detrimental issues in the long term because it is a "mixed use" designation that opens up too many other options. In essence, we could easily find ourselves facing commercial enterprises large enough to destroy the residential nature of our community without any legal recourse. Additionally, we have been told over and over, that the appropriate course of action is to legalize our non-conforming lots is by way of the variance. Needless to say—if nothing else—our letter is bringing this whole matter to a head. And, at some point, there will be a resolution in our favor.

6. Home Occupation: The task force at the county has been meeting for over a year now and we have made significant progress on several fronts. However, to date there are two issues that we have not been able to move through toward satisfactory resolution. One of these is the impact of accessory structures. The legal use of existing accessory structures has been included in the draft ever since last spring. However, an individual representing CCOBH has taken a very strong position in opposition to the use of accessory structures. While CCOBH does not have more "pull" than any other representative on the committee, the issue remains to be resolved. Additionally, there is now a contract system known as the Conditional Home Occupation Agreement on the floor that would provide for some exceptions to the code, most notably permitting non-resident employees. This is positive. However, there are aspects to the contract concept that are potentially threatening to some people. Ultimately, I was quite discouraged after the last meeting because for the first time I felt that the committee had truly reached an impasse. However, with time, people do bounce back so we will see what happens at the next meeting scheduled for Monday, April 5.

Zoning discussion: What is the difference between the NC-10 and the NC-5 zoning designation? **Response:** The problem for non-conforming lots is when the leaseholder wants to change, such an addition to the home because, according to New Castle County zoning, one cannot expand the footprint of a

non-conforming lot. The county zoning task force is now trying to address "accessory buildings."

If the town was dissatisfied with the county zoning, could Arden take over the zoning responsibility? **Response:** Yes, with certain restrictions, and with it would come the responsibility for enforcement.

There is one more point for us to present tonight but I would like to ask for comments or questions on the above points before moving onto the Craft Shop. 7. Now, to the **Craft Shop**. See next page [see this report].

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Rinehart, Trustee

The Craft Shop

In late January or early February we became aware of a possible opportunity for the Village to purchase of the Craft Shop sometime in the relatively near future. After a couple of additional conversations, it was determined that Bob and Phyllis Wynn, current owners of the building and aware of the constant search for a permanent space for the Archives, were offering us a viable chance to pursue this matter. As one might expect, there are numerous facets associated with this type of endeavor that need to be reviewed and addressed, but, we, as trustees, felt that it was an important opportunity that warranted careful review and Town consideration for it is not often that we have a chance to purchase one of the true historic buildings in the Village—one that has clear ties to the very underpinnings and essence of who we are as a community. So—we went to an Archives meeting and updated them. We put together an ad hoc committee of 15 people, trying to draw on a variety of perspectives and professional skills to begin exploration. Over 3 meetings, this group determined the immediate investigative steps that should be taken to generate relevant information, acted on those steps, and developed a process to bring this issue to the town, which included the article in the *Arden Page*, an informational meeting on March 14th, formal presentation of the opportunity at this meeting, and a special town meeting to be held on Monday, April 5, for continued discussion and action on a motion to create an Acquisition Committee whose job would be to investigate specific areas of information, determine a multi-faceted plan of action and lead the town through a natural and appropriate process as we assess the wisdom of possible Village ownership of the building.

Our goal here tonight is to present a short review of the town charge to the Archives Committee when it was established in September 1989, have a brief and, in my opinion a very cool, slide presentation on the history of the Craft Shop, give a synopsis of the information we have gathered to date, and offer 2 motions for Town Assembly action. My hope is that while certainly there are strong emotional issues at bay for a variety of reasons, we will take this oppor-

Trustees Report continued

tunity to learn and begin to logically evaluate the situation so that we can make intelligent decisions over the course of the next months. We have tried to put many checks in place so that town approval is required at various points along the way in order for us to proceed to the next step. Also, from the article in the *Page*, it may appear that some aspects of this project are happening quickly—and—in some respects, this is correct because, if the town decides to go forward in the process, there are significant advantages to beginning the fund raising aspect as soon as possible. Specifically, tying the purchase to our Centennial next year enhances our prospects in the eyes of possible contributors. Additionally, the application deadline for some State of Delaware funds is this May 1.

Let me begin with a reading of the charge for the Archives Committee. Mark will follow with the slide show.

The Archives Committee was established to "... preserve and perpetuate the history of Arden as an intentional community. There are 3 specific duties outlined in the charge:

1. Collect, catalogue, and preserve Arden documents, photos, art work, and memorabilia.
2. Present displays and programs about Arden's past, its people, and its arts.
3. Work toward creating and funding a permanent museum, with the immediate need for storage and space.

To this end, the committee has been in continuous search of a permanent space for years - one recently being Gene Shaw's house, until it was withdrawn at the last moment.

[Archives chairperson, Mark Taylor, presented a slide show of the history of the building which showed the "Red House" (small red section that faces Millers Road) was here by 1902, that second story was added between 1912-1916, that various crafts, such as rug weaving, stained glass, rush furniture, and wrought iron were created there.

Brief Review: What we have accomplished/learned to date.

* We brought in a general building inspector, 2 architects, 2 appraisers, a termite and structural contractor, and our insurance agent all of whom have gone over the property pretty thoroughly for an initial inspection.

* The acquisition will require \$300,000 to \$500,000 in capital funds for the purchase, repairs, possible renovations, and establishment of the Arden Museum and Archives operation.

* The majority of funds must come from outside sources such as foundations. The Whines also have given us a clear indication of a significant contribution to the effort.

Trustees Report continued

Response from trustees and Archives chairperson: Every household will be mailed a notice. We need to have action at that meeting. Also, at that meeting, we can amend, introduce a new motion. We do not want a deep discussion this evening—that we be at the Special Meeting. Tonight we are voting on whether or not to have the special meeting and when. The expenditure will be down the road. We need this process to start getting the money. If we want to get state funds, we need to act now or we will miss this opportunity for more than \$100,000 from the state from the Community Development Fund (deadline May 1). The Community Development Fund with the capital campaign needs to be started now to tie into the Centennial. Our first order of business is a feasibility study to see if foundations are likely to support this capital campaign. Nothing will be binding until the town votes “yes” or “no” on the Acquisition Committee proposal. Bob Wynn, Craft Shop owner, wants to sell sometime in the next 5 to 10 years. We have a volunteer sign up sheet for those who are interested in serving on the committee.

[Motion on floor: Moved that a special Town Assembly be scheduled for Monday, April 5, 1999 at 7:30 pm for the purpose of discussing and acting on a proposal to initiate actions to acquire the Arden Craft Shop.]

Motion, seconded.

Motion to amend the date of the meeting to April 26, not April 5.

Seconded.

Motion approved.

Report approved.

Trustees Report RECEIPTS

Village of Arden

Receipts and Bank Balances March 25, 1998 to February 28, 1999

Balance in Bank March 25, 1998		183,742.85
Receipts:		
Grants	52,495.30	
Interest & Dividends	2,629.85	
Land Rent:		
Past Fiscal Year(s)	3,880.42	
Present Fiscal Year	165,845.41	
Future Fiscal Year(s)	8,777.71	
Meadow Lane Access Rent	268.80	
Memorial Garden Donations	1,715.00	
Miscellaneous	1,653.31	
Rights of Way:		
Cable TV	0.00	
Roads	4,639.89	
SUBTOTAL Receipts	241,905.69	
Redeemed Investments	+ 240,000.00	
New Investments	- 272,000.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	209,905.69	
 Receipts & Starting Bank Balance		393,648.54
Expenditures Against Budget		355,449.44
Balance in Bank as of Feb. 28, 1999		38,199.10

NOTE: Investment Position

Arden Building and Loan	62,475.00
Vanguard Money Market	76,646.69
Other:	
TOTAL Investment Position	139,121.69

Signatures:

Trustee:



Admin. Assist.:



Trustees Reports EXPENDITURES

Village of Arden

Expenditures Against Budget March 25, 1998 to February 28, 1999

Budget Item	Budgeted Amount	Expenditures F.Y. to Date	Expenditures Since Last Report
Committees:			
Archives	3,780.00	3,455.20	597.93
Buzz Ware Village Center	1,000.00	310.03	0.00
Buzz Ware VC: Renovation	6,000.00	3,627.92	0.00
Centennial Celebration	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
Civic: Commons & Forest	14,000.00	9,557.52	243.91
Civic: Roads	14,000.00	10,664.79	0.00
Civic: Special Clean-Up	2,200.00	499.61	0.00
Civic: Trash Collection	34,000.00	31,840.71	5,988.10
Community Planning	1,500.00	375.57	260.57
Com. Plan.: Grant Match Funds	3,000.00	0.00	0.00
Legislative Reference	300.00	0.00	0.00
Playground	1,350.00	1,252.72	75.00
Registration	3,100.00	2,378.99	534.05
Safety: General	900.00	1,010.15	169.07
Safety: Town Watch Coordinator	2,288.00	2,079.00	378.00
Welcome Hither	250.00	5.00	0.00
Salaries:			
Assembly Secretary	5,214.00	4,345.00	790.00
Bookkeeping Services	2,139.00	1,782.00	324.00
Other Line Items:			
Donations: ACRA	700.00	700.00	0.00
Donations: Arden Library	400.00	400.00	0.00
Donations: Arden Page	1,050.00	1,050.00	0.00
Donations: Fire Companies	850.00	850.00	0.00
Gild Hall Rental	650.00	850.00	0.00
Telephone	360.00	172.83	31.32
Contingencies	2,000.00	685.12	279.50
Items Not Subject to Referenda			
Memorial Garden Fund		963.41	0.00
Civic: Grants	10,000.00	(a) 10,650.00	10,650.00
Com. Plan.: Grants		(b) 35,279.67	125.95
Taxes: New Castle Co. Prop.	55,765.00	55,573.69	63.92
Taxes: School	144,129.00	145,645.85	167.52
Administrative: Auditing	3,000.00	3,800.00	0.00
Administrative: Insurance	7,000.00	5,453.00	0.00
Administrative: Legal	10,000.00	5,441.58	2,238.58
Administrative: Office Rent	2,100.00	1,925.00	350.00
Administrative: Operations/Fees	4,500.00	2,891.48	487.25
Administrative: Payroll Taxes	1,600.00	3,409.01	737.67
Administrative: Salary Ad. Asst.	8,736.00	8,006.00	1,456.00
Less Accrued Taxes		(1,301.41)	(236.62)
TOTAL	348,041.00	(c) 355,449.44	(d) 25,711.72

Notes:

(a) Total is a compilation of expenditures relating to 2 grants:
 '98 P. Prog #81: \$5,900.00
 '99 P. Prog #52: \$4,750.00

(b) Total is a compilation of expenditures relating to 4 grants:
 Urban Forestry I: \$ 442.00
 Urban Forestry II: \$ 3,196.66
 Division of Arts: \$ 7,707.30
 Traffic Calming: \$23,951.71

(c) Includes \$46,911.08 expended from non-budgeted funds, i.e. grants & Memorial Garden donations.

(d) Includes \$10,775.95 expended from non-budgeted funds, i.e. grants & Memorial Garden donations.

8. **Archives:** Chairperson Mark Taylor had no additional report.
9. **Assessors:** Chairperson Alton Dahl welcomed residents to attend the meetings. Notices are posted with the meeting and public meeting dates and times. Report approved.

10. **Budget:**

Chairperson Liz Resko submitted the 3-Year Budget Forecast (see "Three Year Projections" and "Disclosures," 2 pages [see following pages]).

Report approved.

11. **Buzz Ware Village Center:**

As far as the nuts and bolts go, we concentrated on room 3 this quarter. The ceiling has been repaired and repainted, and we have purchased wooden doors to replace the deteriorating set. We installed a ceiling over in Hand-in-Hand earlier so the doors zeroed out the \$6000 allocated for renovations this year. We also used \$700 of line item budget money and \$2000 of BWVC income on repair and replacement this year. So overall, the town has invested close to \$9000 in the building this year.

The daycare will be using only room 2 through the end of the school year. We have essentially complete negotiations with the YMCA to take over the Hand-in-Hand space—only during the school year. The YMCA will continue to use room 3 but give up room 4. This is a very positive arrangement for use since it will give us the areas of the building we need when we need them while maintaining a good cash flow.

People involved in Buzz Ware Village Center activities over the year included Ruth Bean, Ellen Dolmetsch, Donna Dreisbach, Mary Ann Nelson, and other from the community.

Many people from the Ardens enjoyed the Coffee House brought to us last month by Frank and Elise Vincent from Ardencroft with a strong assist from Marguerite Archer, Keith Marceski, and Betty O'Regan. This was actually the fruit of the Arts Assessment survey, but it became a good segue to bringing the center to the uses envisioned in the mission statement the committee developed last year when we first surveyed the town.

We hoped to bring you the Master Plan that Lee Smith, the committee and residents have worked to develop this year, but it appears that the finale will be next year. Many have worked on this project so I would like to simply thank Mark Taylor and Debbie Theis for the many years of creativity and willingness that they have given the Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Wheeler, chairperson

Report approved.

Budget 3-year Forecast

ARDEN TOWN ASSEMBLY
March 22, 1999
THREE YEAR PROJECTIONS: VILLAGE OF ARDEN EXPENSES
FY 2000-2001, FY 2001-2002 & FY 2002-2003

	NOTES	(1997-1998)	(1998-1999)	(1999-2000)	(2000-2001)	(2001-2002)	(2002-2003)
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	APPROPRIATED	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST
EXPENSES:							
NON-BUDGET EXPENSES							
Property Taxes:	1						
County		\$55,496	\$55,765	\$58,000	\$ 63,800	\$ 64,438	\$ 65,083
School		142,525	144,129	148,900	172,206	175,650	179,163
SUB-TOTAL: PROPERTY TAXES		\$198,021	\$199,894	\$206,900	\$236,006	\$240,088	\$244,246
TRUSTEES ADMINISTRATION:							
Audit		\$ 3,800	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,000	\$4,000	\$ 4,100	\$4,100
Insurance		6,584	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
Legal		3,203	10,000	8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Operations and Fees		6,539	4,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Office Rent		2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
Payroll Taxes		996	1,600	1,600	2,000	2,000	2,000
Salaries-Administrative Assistant/Treasur	8	10,632	8,736	8,820	9,084	9,084	9,357
SUB-TOTAL: Trustees Administration		\$33,854	\$36,936	\$36,520	\$39,184	\$39,284	\$39,557
State Grant for Roads to Civic Committee		6,000	6,000	6,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Delaware Municipal Street Aid - Roads		16,753	16,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
SUB- TOTAL NON-BUDGET EXPENSES		\$ 254,628	\$ 258,830	\$ 269,420	\$ 305,190	\$ 309,372	\$ 313,803
BUDGET EXPENSES							
Archives	2	\$ 4,212	\$ 3,780	\$ 3,780	\$3,980	\$4,180	\$ 4,380
Assessors		-	-	100	100	100	100
Buzz Ware Village Center		378	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Buzz Ware Village - Renovation Project	3	3,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Centennial Celebration		-	2,000	2,000	3,000	0	0
Civic Committee:							
Roads		13,327	14,000	15,000	15,000	16,000	17,000
Commons & Forests		12,991	14,000	15,000	16,000	17,000	17,000
Trash Collection		32,559	34,000	36,500	37,500	39,000	40,000
Special Clean - up		2,072	2,200	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Community Planning:	4	321	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Urban Forestry Grant-Matching Funds	5	-	3,000	3,000	-	-	-
Arden Book Centennial Edition		-	-	7,851	-	-	-
Legislative Reference		0	300	300	400	400	400
Playground		1,300	1,550	1,550	1,650	1,700	1,750
Registration	6	2,785	3,100	3,250	3,250	3,250	3,250
Safety - General		540	900	900	600	600	600
Welcome Hither	7	111	250	275	300	300	300
HER							
Salaries:	8						
Secretary		5,073	5,214	5,369	5,531	5,696	5,866
Bookkeeping -Town		-	2,139	2,205	2,273	2,341	2,410
Donations:							
ACRA		700	700	700	700	700	700
Arden Page		1,000	1,050	1,100	1,150	1,200	1,250
Arden Library	9	400	400	450	450	450	450
Fire Companies	10	850	850	950	950	950	950
Gild Hall Rental		650	650	700	750	800	800
Town Telephone	11	229	360	260	504	504	504
Town Watch Coordinator Fees		2,222	2,268	2,268	2,268	2,268	2,268
Contingencies		0	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
SUB- TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES		\$ 84,720	\$ 103,211	\$ 116,508	\$ 109,356	\$ 110,439	\$ 112,978
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 339,348	\$ 362,041	\$ 385,928	\$ 414,546	\$ 419,811	\$ 426,781

Budget 3-year Forecast

Footnote Disclosure
Town Assembly March 22, 1999
Three Year Expenditure Projections for Village of Arden Funds
FY 2000-2001, FY 2001-2002 & FY 2002-2003

1. **Property Taxes:**
 County Taxes - County Executive has stated no tax increase would be forthcoming during his term in office. Actual increases may result when his term is completed, as projected in FY 2000-2001, (10% increase or a total tax increase of \$5,800); with a 1% increase thereafter to reflect any increases based on assessed property values FY 2001-2002 (1% or total tax increase of \$638) and FY 2002 - 2003 (1% or total tax increase of \$645.)

 School Taxes - FY 1999-2000 Arden Town Assembly Appropriated \$148,900. We anticipate a change in projection from \$148,900 to \$167,190 (additional \$18,290) based on implementation of school tax increase of 15% from Referendum Vote March 1999 and a 1% increase based on assessed property values. Should this Referendum Vote pass the following three years projections are as follows: FY2000-2001 (3% tax increase, total \$5,016), FY 2001-2002 (2% tax increase, total \$3,444) and FY 2002-2003 (2% tax increase, total \$3,513).
2. **Archives - Rent \$182/Mo., \$2,184/Yr. - Payable to BWV.** Projections exclude expansion of current space should that occur.
3. **BWVC -** is in the midst of plan development. To continue under current plan will probably require some continued aid. The request is for capital, not operating funds. I expect that revenue will be down from current levels for the foreseeable future. Other lines of support are developing in the community, but not to a degree of certainty from which new forecast could be made. The Center does have a good reserve.
4. **Community Planning -** Normally operating expenses are approximately \$1,500 per year. For FY 1997-1998 a large percentage of the operating expenses were absorbed by grants resulting in lower expenses for the town in the amount of \$321.
5. **Urban Forestry Grants -** There is no way to predict what future projects the committee may become involved in and whether grants will be applied for or accepted or what matching funds may be needed.
6. **Registration -** Most costs are mailing costs. Predict adequate cushion for the next few years postal rate increases.
7. **Welcome Hither -** Projected expenditure increase due to unanticipated anniversary expenses.
8. **Salaries: FY 1997-1998 Actual Expenses for Bookkeeper:** By way of motion those budgeted funds for Treasurer were expended under Trustees Administration for bookkeeping expenses.

 Town Secretary/Town Bookkeeper:
 July 1, 1995 - July 1, 1999 (5 years) the Delaware State Senate 139th General Assembly Senate Bill No.410 has increased the salary of each employee by 3.0 percent. Since these two positions are Town positions we base our projections on Delaware State economic indicators. Our projections for the next three years are consistent with the last five years of Delaware State Salary Adjustments of 3.0 percent increase respectively.
9. **Donations Arden Library -** Projections based on inflation holding at 5% or under.
10. **Donations - Fire Companies:** Claymont Fire Co. \$650, Talleyville Fire Co. \$150 and Brandywine Hundred Fire Co. \$150.
11. **Town Telephone -** Projections significantly higher as anticipate that this cost may rise appreciably as a result of new secretary and the phone company has figured out that it is in fact a business line. (The Village of Arden is a municipality listed in the phone book.) Current low cost is because current secretary has these calls listed as transfer calls to her business line. Amount based on current cost of Trustees' phones, which is a business line.

Buzz Ware Village Center Report continued

Discussion: The town thanked Tom, Mark and Debbie for their work. Eliot Levin presented a check for \$1000 to the Buzz Ware Village Center from the Village of Ardencroft. Ronni Yaskin from Ardencroft had presented the motion for the donation.

12. Civic:

Civic Committee will meet and do its Spring Walkabout on Saturday, May 8. If there are any areas of special concern, please call Rodney Jester and they will be put on the agenda to be looked at.

Alton Dahl and Lou Bean will be installing posts with bird houses attached to mark our boundaries along Ardencroft and Sunset Farms. if you would like to assist or desire more information, please contact Alton Dahl.

We have requested from Rep. Wayne Smith a Capital Improvement Grant of \$8000 for roads. A final decision on the use of this money will be made after our Walkabout.

The proposed design for a bus stop at the Memorial Garden on Harvey Road is finished. The state will give us \$6000 toward its construction. We will be responsible for its construction. Afterwards, we will be responsible for electric, maintenance, and insurance.

The proposed bus stop cost breakdown is as follows:

Stonework	4200.
Electric	1000.
Materials	2000.
Labor	<u>Unknown</u>
	\$7200.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodney Jester, chairperson

Clarification: Costs by the chairperson and Beverly Barnett from Community Planning who did the Bus Stop research, particularly on the state financial support. The cost would be approximately \$7200, permit fee, management fee, and \$5000-\$7000 in labor. We need to tell the state soon. Does the town want to put the bus stop on Harvey Road? The design would be in the Arts and Crafts style with cedar siding and cedar shake roof and low level illumination. The state is encouraging public transportation use since I-95 will be under reconstruction a year from now.

Discussion: \$12,000 is a lot of money. How many people are using the public transportation there? The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will require that a concrete pad be installed (\$2400). Is it to our advantage to meet the ADA

standard? We need to find out our ADA needs. This location is not good. School buses do not stop there. This could invite graffiti and garbage. Why are we doing this in the first place? How many people need it? We should not ask for money for something that we do not need.

Motion: Move that the Civic Committee re-evaluate the bus stop proposal in light of tonight's discussion. Seconded. Not approved.

Motion: Move that we vote now to dispense the idea of the bus stop shelter. Seconded.

Motion approved.

13. Community Planning Report

Sherwood Green

Gary Smith has begun work on the final phase of the Sherwood Green plan. We expect to have a preliminary draft done for review by Community Planning and Civic Committee within the next six weeks and the final plan done by May 1.

Millers Road

Bev, Tim Colgan and I spent Saturday morning, February 20th, putting the barrels back in place for a drive through with the fire company. The proposed new configuration for the Millers Road/Lower Lane/Walnut Lane intersection passed the emergency vehicle test with flying colors. Jay Morente, an Ardencroft resident and Captain of Claymont Fire Company, brought their largest fire truck and the rescue truck, which is even larger, over and drove both trucks through the intersection from all directions. According to Jay, the proposed design will present no problems as far as emergency vehicles are concerned.

Mike Simmons, a design engineer with DelDot, has been contacted to see if he can offer any help with actual road design.

Harvey Road

On February 24, Bev Barnett and I met with Chief Perry, Wayne Smith, Alex Taft of WILMAPCO, and Reid Ewing, a traffic calming consultant, to try and find a way around the speed table impasse. At that meeting, Chief Perry agreed to consider horizontal deflection between Veale Road and Sconset, where there is already a paved shoulder, and some other device between Marsh and Veale in place of speed tables in the current plan. An Advisory Committee of 10-13 people, including representatives from the three Ardens, DelDot, Grubb Road, CCOBH, Holiday Hills, Wynnwood, Kingsridge, and North Graylyn Crest, will try to build on this compromise for design. Technical assistance will be provided by WILMAPCO, who will also lead the meetings.

We had hoped initially this would bridge any impasse we were encountering with the fire company. At that meeting on February 24, Chief Perry had agreed that by March 10, he would name a representative from the fire company to serve on the committee. As of this morning, almost a month later, he still has

Community Planning Report continued

not bothered to do so. The advisory group can't proceed without fire company representation. So we still seem to be at some sort of an impasse with the fire company.

This advisory group is working towards a June 30 deadline. If a compromise can be reached in that time, DelDot has agreed to fund the design stage in fiscal year 2001 with implementation to be funded in 2003. We recommend that the Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee continue in its present form until the project is completed.

The construction of the new Veale Road intersection is scheduled to take place this July and will last two to four weeks. This includes widening the intersection, adding a median on Veale, and redoing the entire intersection on Harvey as well as pedestrian crosswalks in pavers. Initially, DelDot planned to close the intersection completely during construction. However, Chief Perry has said no way, so we're not sure whether Harvey Road will be completely closed or not.

On March 29, DelDot is holding a public hearing to discuss changes, or in DelDot's words, improvements to Grubb Road. At 7 p.m., the communities from the west end of Grubb Road plan to make a statement outlining their desire for reduced speed and a way to minimize aggressive driving on the road. In as much as those communities have been very supportive of the Ardens' traffic calming efforts, the Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee and the Community Planning Committee support their efforts to create safe driving speeds on Grubb Road, including their efforts to use traffic calming tools. If anyone would like more information about this meeting, Bev has handouts about it, and Frank had been very active on it.

Landmark

Some of you were present at the David Ames lecture titled "The Ardens of Delaware as a Traditional Cultural Property", earlier this month here at Gild Hall. He incorporated many of the suggestions that were made by residents and presented the lecture to a historic preservation conference at Goucher College in Baltimore on March 13.

Originally the Landmark Committee had sought recognition as a Traditional Cultural Property, but was met with opposition from the National Park Service's landmark historian. Dr. Ames raised that question again on the Ardens' behalf at this conference, which was attended by a number of influential people. He received a very positive response from the audience, and after the presentation, the Ardens were encouraged to move forward with their application for landmark status as a traditional cultural property. The Landmark Committee is in the process of doing that.

Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden clean-up is scheduled for May 1 [raindate May 2]. And the next Remembrance Day will be held May 16 [2-4 pm].

Woods Clean-up

The woods clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, April 17.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynda Kolski, chairperson

Discussion: A resident requested the portion of the report on Landmark. The Curtis/Ross family will be featured on Remembrance Day.

Report approved.

14. **Legislative Reference:** Committee member, Brooke Bovard, informed us that they had not report for this meeting.

15. **Playground:** Chairperson Rich Bloom told the meeting that the equipment was in good shape. The old boards on the tables have been replace with red-wood and the committee would like comments from the residents on the change over.

Report approved.

16. **Registration:** The committee has not met since the last meeting, since no meetings were necessary. We currently have a total population of 480 (299 adults, 81 children under age 18). Of these, 289 are eligible to vote.

We will count ballots at 7:30 pm tomorrow evening at Sharon Kleban's. The results will be posted at the Gild Hall and Arden Green. All nominees will receive a letter with the election results.

Respectfully submitted,
Cecilia A. Vore, chairperson

17. **Safety:** Chairperson Tim Colgan informed the meeting that \$250 has been received from Ardencroft and \$500 has been received from Ardentown for Town Watch. A handout with the proposed changes to the Safety Code was presented for motion [see motion on following page].

Safety Report continued [Proposed Parking Change]

Proposed Motion: The Arden Town Assembly approves the following revisions to the Arden Safety Code sections 202 and 202 (b) and approves the following new section 202 (c).

Section 202: Emergency regulations. The Safety Committee shall have the following powers to regulate traffic and parking temporarily and in time of emergency: (a) In the case of fire, flood, storm, or other emergency, to establish temporary traffic and parking regulations. (b) In case of emergency, to restrict or prohibit parking or traffic in limited areas for periods of not more than 72 hours, or to permit parking in restricted areas for up to 24 hours.

Section 202 (c): The Civic Committee shall have the authority to allow parking to be temporarily restricted to facilitate public works or in the case of conduct of parades or public events. Furthermore, the Civic Committee shall have the authority to allow parking to be temporarily restricted for up to 24 hours on rights-of-way during which a Village green(s) will be used for parking during an event. The responsibilities of the event sponsor shall be as follows: (1) request shall be in writing at least thirty days in advance of the event. (2) temporary signs must be posted, at the event sponsors' cost, on rights-of-ways to be restricted. These signs may be posted up to twelve hours prior to the event and must be removed within twenty-four hours after the event. These signs shall read "No parking, tow away zone". (3) monitor parking during the event and have illegally parked vehicles, and vehicles parked on the green that remain more than four hours after the event, towed away.

A continuing arrangement may be made with the Arden Club to deal with traffic congestion in the vicinity of the Gild Hall.

Safety Report continued [Current Parking Ordinance]

ORDINANCES

**Ordinance - #13
Off-Street Parking
Adopted June 1982
Revised June 26, 1995**

Section 1. Purpose; Arden has had a policy of encouraging leaseholders to provide off street parking ON their leaseholds. The ordinance makes this policy a requirement

Section 2. Every leaseholder in Arden shall provide a parking place on the leasehold and off the roads and rights-of-way of Arden to accommodate every vehicle regularly used by persons living on the leasehold.

Section 3. All residents must park ON the leasehold and not on the streets or rights-of-way in Arden.

Section 4. Habitual overnight parking, such as three times a week, on Arden streets or rights-of-way is prohibited.

Section 5. The Safety committee shall administer this ordinance and shall, issue up to three warnings to violators of the ordinance prior to notice of prosecution. A copy of this ordinance shall be issued with the first notice of violation

Section 6. The Safety Committee with the advice of the Community Planning Committee may grant an exemption from the requirements of this ordinance to any leaseholder the committee determines is unable to comply because of lack of land or road frontage. Such exemptions shall be in the form of a written statement to be filed with the Secretary of The Town Assembly and the Administrative Assistant to the Trustees.

Section 7. Violation of this ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of \$100.00 due within fifteen days from notice of prosecution, payable to The Village of Arden.

Section 8. Appeals to this ordinance should be made prior to the third notice of violation. Appeals to this ordinance after the third notice of violation will not waive the imposition of fines and costs.

Safety Report continued [Proposed Parking Change]

Motion: To accept the changes proposed. Seconded.

Motion approved.

Discussion: What types of vandalism have been reported? Mailboxes and an auto break in. Some gatherings of teens were noted at the bridge to Ardencroft and Lovers and Orleans usually late at night.

Report approved.

18. **Welcome Hither:** Jannie Stearns updated the meeting on new residents packages delivered. The secretary informed the meeting that the residents list is update quarterly. A trustee informs the secretary of lease transfers.
19. **Centennial:** The town chairperson, Bill Press, informed the town that something is planned for every month.
20. **Old business:** None.
21. **New business:** Outgoing Advisory chairperson, Judy Butler, and town secretary, Connee McKinney, thanked the town for their support during their term in office.
22. **Good and Welfare:** The two proposals (reduce junk mail trash and include an old Arden poem or tradition at each town meeting] by Peggy Aumack were addressed by Bill Press. Advisory will present response at the next town meeting.
23. Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

Next regular meeting: June 28, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. at the Gild Hall

Special town meeting: April 26, 1999 at 7:30 in the Lower Gild Hall

Respectfully submitted,



Connee Wright McKinney, town secretary

Flier prepared by resident Mary Marconi for town meeting

Below is an article that I've submitted for the April Arden Page^{IT} which may or may not be relevant to tonight's Town Assembly.

Village Factions or Community Consensus

Factions are nothing new in Arden. I hear that a man named Brown, an anarchist, was arrested for disrupting a Town Assembly, and he, in turn, had his accusers arrested for playing tennis on the Green on Sunday. We haven't reached this level of discord yet, and in the interest of avoiding the spectacle of groups of us being hauled away by the New Castle County police, I make the following observations.

There seems to be a growing lack of trust among Arden residents that is exemplified by the "this is my town and I know what's best for it" group and the "oh no you don't" group. These are very scientific and complex labels, but please bear with me.

It is said that the first group seems to believe that only they know what's best for the town, that they do most of the work and that, therefore, their good intentions and common sense need not be questioned.

The second group, of course, questions this. It is said that all they want is lower land rent, that they don't know and possibly don't care what's good for the town, and that really all they want is to bicker, argue and never get anything done.

Which group came first? I don't know and frankly, don't care. I do know it needs to stop. We need to have open dialogue that builds consensus and incorporates the best ideas. Otherwise, all we will achieve is stalemate, and good ideas that could keep Arden growing and thriving will die or perhaps worse, not be implemented in the best interest of the town.

Those who tend to think that they know best and that their ideas shouldn't be challenged need to stop and listen and respect the questions and contributions of others. Those who tend to want to say "NO" to every new idea need to do the same.

Hopefully, we will listen and build on each other's ideas rather than reject them outright. If the objective is to strengthen the community, the means should be open dialogue not partisanship. *(I trust, I haven't butchered Arden history too much, but if you see Mark chasing me around the Green, you'll know I have.)*

Mary Marconi, 475-6819 or mlm78@aol.com

Flier prepared by secretary nominee June Irons for town meeting

JUNE IRONS FOR ARDEN'S SECRETARY!



I want to introduce myself and let you know that I'm running for the office of Secretary for the Town of Arden. Since some of you may not have met me, I put some pictures above that you may recognize. None of them are me, my daughter Bethany, our dog Polly or our 2 cats Marissa and Millie.

But seriously, I am running for the office at the request of a few townspeople for several reasons. First of all, I was a secretary at Hercules Inc. for 10 years and reported to 16 people. I worked my way through Widener College at night as a single mom to get my elementary education degree and have been teaching computer science and run the library for the past 3 years at Immaculate Conception School in Elkton, Maryland.

My last name may be familiar to some of you. My mother in law was Mary Irons, and I am living in the house she had built on Harvey Road shortly before she died. I spent a lot of time in Arden before I moved here a year ago, and worked as a volunteer for the Arden Fair last summer.

One of the most important reasons I'd like to have this office of Secretary is to get involved with my new community and to meet more of my neighbors. Whether I win or lose, I plan on meeting more members of the community as the weather improves and my dog drags me through the neighborhood as she takes me for a walk.

Please feel free to call me at 475-1906. If the line is busy, my 13 year old daughter is probably tying up the line talking to her friends. Please leave a message and I'll call back as soon as Bethany takes a break.

*Election ballot prepared by Registration Committee for town meeting***Ballot for Arden Town Committees and Officers • March 22, 1999**

The following names (listed alphabetically) were placed in nomination by the Advisory Committee.
Space is available on this ballot for nominations made from the floor.

Vote for your choice by means of an **X** in the box in from of the name. Note: * = incumbent

Archives Committee Vote for 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Cardivano <input type="checkbox"/> Linda Eaton* <input type="checkbox"/> Sandi Hurlong <input type="checkbox"/> Allan Kleban	<input type="checkbox"/> Liz Resko <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Taylor* <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Audit Committee Vote for 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Christine Demsey* <input type="checkbox"/> Liz Resko <input type="checkbox"/> Arthur Stevenson*	<input type="checkbox"/> Dion Taylor <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Committee Vote for 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Marianne Cinaglia* <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Hill <input type="checkbox"/> Carl Falco <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Marconi*	<input type="checkbox"/> Rick Reynolds-Grier <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Zylkin <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Buzz Ware Village Center Comm. Vote for 3 (2-year term) Vote for 1 ((fill vacancy) Vote for 2 for 1-year term pending Town Assembly approval of trial expansion of committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Marguerite Archer <input type="checkbox"/> Peg Aumack <input type="checkbox"/> Tim Colgan <input type="checkbox"/> Heidi Hoegger <input type="checkbox"/> Allan Kleban <input type="checkbox"/> Wayne Knotts	<input type="checkbox"/> Eliot Levin <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Lipstein <input type="checkbox"/> Betty O'Regan <input type="checkbox"/> Elaine Schmerling <input type="checkbox"/> Dion Taylor <input type="checkbox"/>
Civic Committee Vote for 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Bernie Brachman <input type="checkbox"/> Walter Broadbent <input type="checkbox"/> Phil Fisher <input type="checkbox"/> Aaron Hamburger*	<input type="checkbox"/> Rodney Jester* <input type="checkbox"/> Keith Marceski <input type="checkbox"/> Lynne Syenning <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Planning Comm. Vote for 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Beverly Barnett* <input type="checkbox"/> Rachel Grier-Reynolds* <input type="checkbox"/> Harold Kalmus <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Marconi	<input type="checkbox"/> Jan Westerhouse* <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Brent Whipple <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Legislative Reference Comm. Vote for 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Brooke Bovard* <input type="checkbox"/> Joan Fitzgerald <input type="checkbox"/> Barbara Macklem	<input type="checkbox"/> Connee McKinney <input type="checkbox"/> Joan Zylkin <input type="checkbox"/>
Playground Committee Vote for 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Lanier Colgan <input type="checkbox"/> Evelyn Knotts* <input type="checkbox"/> Ray McDevitt <input type="checkbox"/> John Stevenson	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken Sutton <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Tanzer <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Vernon* <input type="checkbox"/> Larry Walker
Registration Committee Vote for 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Borders* <input type="checkbox"/> Richel Grier-Reynolds <input type="checkbox"/> Natalie Hubbard	<input type="checkbox"/> Deborah Laraway <input type="checkbox"/> Joan Zylkin <input type="checkbox"/>
Safety Committee Vote for 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Walter Borders <input type="checkbox"/> Tim Colgan* <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Harcourt* <input type="checkbox"/> Eliot Levin	<input type="checkbox"/> Denis O'Regan <input type="checkbox"/> Alex Scala <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Chairperson Vote for 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Alton Dahl	<input type="checkbox"/> Joan Fitzgerald
Town Assembly Chair Vote for 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Press*	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town Secretary Vote for 1	<input type="checkbox"/> June Irons	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town Treasurer Vote for 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken Lipstein*	<input type="checkbox"/>